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Merritt Chandler,

The following extract is from the sec-Ed volume of John B. McMasters "History of the People of the United States" just published:

just published:
On the resignation of Samuel Osgood in 1791, the office of Postmaster General was bestowed on Timothy Pickering. So insignificant was the place and so light the duties that officer was to perform that Washington did not think him worthy of a Cabinet seat. Yet there is now no other department of the government in which the people take so lively an interest as in that over which the Postmaster General presides. The number of men who care whether the Iudians get their blankets and their rations on the frontier, whether one or two are stationed at Fort Bodge, whether there is a a fleet of gunboats in the Mediterranean Ssa, is extremely small. But the suc never sets without millions upon millions of our citizens intrusting to the mail letters and postal cards meney the mail letters and postal cards money orders and packages, in the safe and speedy delivery of which they are deeply concerned. The growth of the postoffice in the last ninety years is indeed amazin the last ninety years is indeed amazing. In 1792 there were 264 postoffices in the country; now there are 49.C. ). The yearly revenue which they yielded then was \$25.C. ). Now it is far above \$45.000,C.0. More time was then consumed in carrying letters ninety miles than now suffices to carry them 1,C.D. The postage required to send a letter from New York to Savannah was precisely eighteen times as great as will send one now far beyond the Rocky Mountains, into regions of which our ancestors had never heard.

With newspapers the Postmaster Gen-

With newspapers the Postmaster Gen-eral would have nothing to do. The postmasters in the towns and villages did, indeed, receive them and send them on with the mails, but they were under no obligation to do so. It is, therefore a common thing to read in the papers printed at towns remote from the seaboard, complaints that the Pennsylvania packets or the New York Johnnal were kept back, and civil requests to the post-masters to let them go on. When they did come it was

USUALLY IN SADDLE-BAGS, and, as the riders never traveled by night, they were several days old. From the official postoffice notices in the news-papers, it appears that letters which went cut from Philadelphia at 8:30 in the morning of Monday were expected to reach New York at 2 in the afternoon of Tuesday. Precisely the same number of hours was spent on the road from Philadelphia to Baltimore. Under the confederation this space was thought speedy enough, but times had changed. speedy enough, but times had changed. A new government had been set up; the bank had been established. A wild desire to speculate had taken hold upon men, and in their anxiety to hear of the doings of Congress and the price of stocks in the neighboring cities, a post that made ninety miles in twenty-four hours and a half seemed insufferably slow. An attempt was therefore made slow. An attempt was therefore made to kasten the mails, and Jefferson, at the suggestion of Washington, had a long conference with Pickering. The wish of the President was that letters should of the President was that letters should travel I() miles in twenty-four hours. The plan was to have the pouches carried by ridets in the day and by the coaches during the night, but the country was too poor. An attempt had, indeed, been made in New Jersey to run mail coaches with seats for four passengers, but that State laid a yearly tax of \$400 on stages and taverns, declared the Federal Government was no better than an individual, and demanded payment. In Maryland and Virginia the right to convey passengers had been granted as a monepoly to certain men. When therefore, the motion was made in Congress that all stage wagons of the postofice should have the right to carry passengers too, a cry went up that such a law would be a violation of State rights, and

THE FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL.

### Dunkers and Methodists.

The Cheboygan, Mich.

The Campaign has Opened

The Campaign has the result of the shildren of the way. The Market of the based to fire seven years. At last in 1700, the Nationals Company has the shill depend on the sale of the shill depend on the shill depend on the sale opened has the shill depend on the shill de

ing the same time 500 others had been taught to read and write, and had left. Such good work it was felt deserved to be encouraged, and as the State was spending money on mad-houses, prisons and turnpike roads, the Sunday school society applied to the Legislature for aid. But, when the matter came up for debate, Albert Gallatin moved a committee to inquire whether it would not be well to have free schools throughout the State. The committeemen took two months te deliberate, and then brought in a carious report. It was their opinien that a school ought to be established at each county town; that it should be supported by the arrearage-of taxes fund, and by a small charge; that children who could read and write should he admitted, and for three years taught geography, history. English grammar, and the elements of mathematies. But the Quakers stood out manfully against the scheme and it failed.

### OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS.

Policy of the Cleveland Administration To-ward the Contral American States. ward the Central American States.

Washington, June 21.—The Sunday Herald to-day publishes an interview with "a member of the government who will have more or less to do with carrying out the President's views" upon Central American affairs.

The Herald says that the person interviewed is of the highest official rank, and teo good a diplomatist to say anything that ought not to be told. His remarks, in part, were as follows: "Admiral Jonett's last dispatechs indicate that there will be trouble in Central America very soon, unless something is done to prevent it. The matter has not come be-

very soon, unless something is done to prevent it. The matter has not come before the Executive for consideration, because there has been no occasion for it. But I can say this much, the principle enunciated by the President in his instructions to the Secretary of the Navy touching the occupation of Aspinwall and Panama will be strictly adhered to. The United States will not permit irresponsible persons in any country to endanger the lives and property of our own citizens by revelutionary organizations against the local governments. To put down Preston was made a great departure from the usage of the country in respect to diplomatic relations with other nations. If a similar condition occurs again the same authority will be used. It may as well be known new that while there is no annexation scheme intended, nor has any system of permanent garrisons in the troubled States been considered whataver the

scheme intended, nor has any system of permanent garrisons in the troubled States been considered, whatever the emergency demands will be done. Beyond that I do not wish to say, for it would be the merest speculation. The American Nation must maintain the dignity of its position. That is true Democratic doctrine. The only thing I wish to state positively touching the policy of the government in regard to its foreign relations is this: It proposes to exercise a proper influence in the affairs of other states wherever that influence is required, that should be commensurate with our position among the nations. Circumstances will develop our foreign policy. It will be regulated by the necessities of the event and will be guided and directed upon the highest humanitarium principles and in accordance with the needs of Anglo-Saxon civilization. That is all that needs to be said."

it was right to keep us in the dark, and I made a remark to that effect. "'Why don't you go and ask Forrest?' some one remarked. 'I am not acquainted with him,' I re-

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